

2755 Ordway Street, N.W. #408
Washington, D.C. 20008
January 14, 1988

Mr. Lindsley Williams, Chairman
District of Columbia Zoning Commission
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Room 11
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Williams:

My name is Mary Ellen Bobb and I am a owner/resident of 2755 Ordway Street, N.W. and writing this statement in support of the Cleveland Park Historical Society's request (case number 86-26) to down zone the Cleveland Park neighborhood.

Connecticut Avenue, the main corridor through the Cleveland Park neighborhood, is a primary traffic route from downtown Washington to the suburbs. Cars and busses back up daily along the Avenue tying up traffic there and on Porter Street as well, where additional cars, busses and trucks idle outside our apartment windows. The noise from their engines and fumes from their exhausts permeate the apartments. Within the next few months this chronic problem will only intensify upon the completion of the huge new apartment building now under construction on Porter Street. The Uptown movie theatre on Connecticut Avenue brings in yet additional noise and traffic to the neighborhood.

Cleveland Park as many of you know is one of the very nicest neighborhoods in the city, offering wonderful conveniences in a small town atmosphere. Within our neighborhood we have as many as 15 restaurants, a major movie theatre, 3 or 4 dry cleaners, 1 jewelry store, 1 picture framing store, 2 dance and or exercising studios, 1 grocery store, 2 banks, 2 bookstores, 1 florist, 2 women dress stores, 3 beauty shops, 1 drug store, 2 liquor stores, 1 fish market, 1 Seven-Eleven, 1 video store, 1 oriental rug merchant, and several more shops that I have not mentioned. Does this list of shops sound like a litany, well it is and these commercial establishments are all within a 2 block radius, the same 2 block area where developers wish to add more shops, more traffic, more congestion, and more noise.

We hear so much about the quality of life. But bigger is not always better and more not always an improvement. Cleveland Park is not a neighborhood in need of more, be it shops, traffic, noise or congestion. For this reason I am in full support of the down zoning requested by the Cleveland Park Historical Society and urge the zoning commission to listen to the wishes to the community and to pass the only zoning that would be a real improvement to my community.

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Bobb
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ZONING COMMISSION
CASE NO. 86-26
District of Columbia
EXHIBIT NO. 178

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